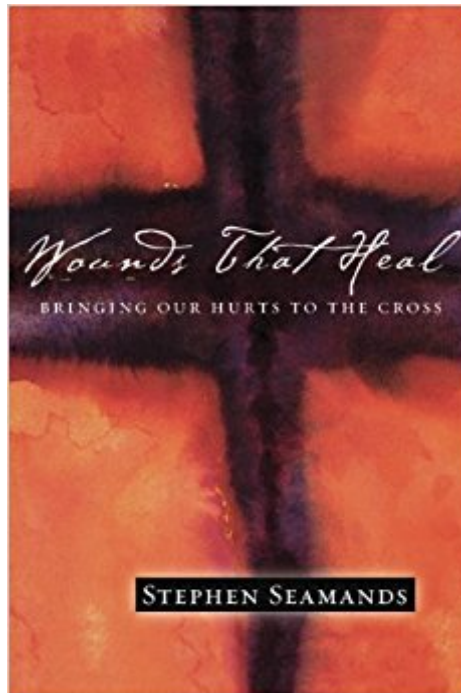




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Wounds That Heal: Bringing Our Hurts To The Cross



Synopsis

"By his wounds we are healed"--Isaiah 53:5. We are wounded people. In this fallen world, people are hurt and exploited. Children are abused. Marriages are broken. Tragedies of all kinds afflict us and the ones we love. Woundedness, it seems, is simply a fact of life. But we are not alone in our suffering. Despite our emotional, psychological and physical injuries, God has not abandoned us. God is not distant or aloof. On the contrary, through the ministry of Jesus, God enters our painful situations to bring healing and redemption. Balancing sound biblical exposition with sensitive pastoral care, Stephen Seamands examines the profound implications of Jesus' crucifixion for our healing and restoration. Because Jesus experienced abuse, shame and rejection, he understands the hurts we experience today. And his response to pain and suffering gives us hope that we too can experience forgiveness and new life. Filled with real-life stories of people's brokenness and healing, *Wounds That Heal* offers comfort for our wounded souls. Ultimately, we take heart that God not only understands our pain but has done something about it. Encounter here the promise that the wounds of Jesus are wounds that heal.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stephen Seamands (Ph.D., Drew University) is professor of Christian doctrine at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. He also frequently speaks and leads retreats and seminars on such issues as emotional healing and spiritual renewal. His books include *Christology* and *Transition in the Theology of Edwin Lewis* (University Press of America, 1987), *Holiness of Heart*

and Life (Abingdon, 1990), A Conversation with Jesus (Victor, 1994) and Wounds That Heal (InterVarsity Press, 2003).

Part one was excellent--really amplifies what our Savior accomplished on the cross and also how He most surely has faced all we face and can therefore be our High Priest, having been victorious over these trials. However, Part two started to psychologize, with "repressed memories" and such and I don't believe all that is necessary in order to be victorious over our past.

We read Wounds that Heal in two different recovery groups that I lead for women. These groups of women get together every week to consider how to grow spiritually within a marriage where addictions (or other challenges) have been present. Wounds that Heal was the perfect selection. Again and again, we found ourselves at the foot of the cross, where we learned to put life in perspective. The last chapter is worth the whole book, "Radiant Scars." Here Seamands talks about why Jesus resurrected with his scars intact, and how our scars are meant to be "recycled" by God to bring others hope. Beautiful stuff! This is a book I will go back to again and again. The only chapter that I struggled with was his chapter on demons (which he admits was a risk to put in the book). I thought it broke up the flow of an otherwise heart-moving book. The study guide is terrific which makes it great for book group study.

I'm biased, having taken a class from this author, but I have used this since with several different groups, and it is a tremendous tool for healing. He goes into terrific detail on all kinds of trauma and suffering, and even if you have no serious issues, you will understand those who do much better, as well as having a solid foundation for praying and working with others. I recommend this book with no reservations - it will challenge and bless you if you stick with it.

Finally a down to earth - nuts and bolts deal-with-your-hurts book. Great scriptural references for further study . . . my favorite section was the approach to forgiveness . . . beyond just letting go and all the way to what God wants for each of us!

Dr. Seamands does a good job writing a practical book for ministry. Whether you are a minister or a lay person, this book provides excellent insight into the power of the cross . Each page offers challenge and encouragement .

I read this book nearly every year during lent. He helps me focus upon the work of Christ.

Stephen Seamands writes so clearly and helps one to dig deeper to get to the root of the wound. I have recommended this book already to a number of people and will continue to do so.

This book is special as it talks about how and why Jesus suffered for us. The chapter about forgiveness is so helpful.

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